



# News Release

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For Immediate Release: April 16th, 2015  
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## **City of Ardmore Recognized as an Oklahoma Clean Community**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in partnership with Keep Oklahoma Beautiful (KOB) will recognize the City of Ardmore as an Oklahoma Clean Community during a ceremony scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at Ardmore's annual Earth Expo. The award will be presented to the Ardmore Beautification Council and will be held at BancFirst Plaza, 310 W. Main in Ardmore.

Ardmore Beautification Council is continuously striving to implement their motto "A Beautiful City is Good Business" by organizing tree and flower plantings, implementing signage beautification projects, hosting an annual garden tour and participating in Keep Oklahoma Beautiful's Fresh Paint Days program to paint community structures in need of beautification and improvement.

Ardmore Beautification Council holds an annual Earth Expo in which tires and other hard to handle items are collected for responsible recycling and continue to provide recycling opportunities and resources throughout the year. The City of Ardmore and Ardmore Beautification Council engage in several environmental service projects throughout the year including the Great American Clean Up in Oklahoma.

DEQ and KOB recognize entities that participate in at least one tire collection event annually and other environmental service projects. DEQ encourages entities to coordinate a community-wide cleanup of used tires. DEQ's Tire Indemnity Fund will pay to haul off old, unused, or abandoned tires. Tire piles can be an eyesore and attract unwelcome pests, such as mosquitoes and rodents. After cleanup is complete and all criteria for other service projects are met, a community can be recognized as an Oklahoma Clean Community.

More information on the Used Tire Recycling Program is available at <http://www.deq.state.ok.us/lpdnew/TireRecyclingPrg.htm> or by contacting Ferrella March at [ferrella.march@deq.ok.gov](mailto:ferrella.march@deq.ok.gov) or 405-702-5175.